

George and Netty Holler House
324 North Park Avenue
Indianapolis
Marion County
Indiana

HABS NO. IND-49

HABS
IND

49-IND

6

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

GEORGE AND NETTY HOLLER HOUSE

6.

Location: 324 North Park Avenue, Indianapolis, Marion County,
Indiana (the address was formerly designated as
160 North Liberty)

Present Owner: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: Being restored

Statement of
Significance: The house is a typical example of a working-class
house of the period in the east side of Indianapolis.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Dates of erection: 1863 or 1864. The portion of land on which the house stands was sold to Netty Holler in March 1863 for \$900 (Deed Record Town Lots 16, p. 617). This is the price of the unimproved property. The City Directory published in 1865 lists George Holler, husband of Netty Holler, as living in the house in 1864 (The Indianapolis City Directory for 1865, Hawes & Co., Indianapolis, 1865).
2. Architect: Not known; probably none.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The following is a partial chain of title. Records are to be found in the Recorder's Office, City-County Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

1859 Warranty Deed 1 Nov. 1859, recorded 2 Nov. 1859 in Deed Record Town Lots 9, p. 402
Janet S. McQuat
to
John B. Robb
Lot 15 and Lot 16 in Janet S. McQuats Subdivision of Out Lot 53 of the Donation Lands of the City of Indianapolis, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, p. 67, 26 June 1850. For \$900.

1863 Warranty Deed 25 Feb. 1863, recorded 14 Mar. 1863 in Deed Record Town Lots 16 p. 425
John B. Robb et ux
to
Henry Hattendorf

Lot 15 and 16. For \$1200.

1863 Warranty Deed 16 March 1863, recorded 7 Apr. 1863
in Deed Record Town Lots 16 page 609
Henry Hattendorf et ux.

to
William Holler
32 feet west side of Lot 15. For \$500.

1863 Warranty Deed 16 March 1863, recorded 9 April 1863
in Deed Record Town Lots p. 617
Henry Hattendorf et ux.

to
Netty Holler
Lot 16 and 16 feet off entire side of Lot 15.
For \$900.

1863 Warranty Deed, 30 Nov. 1863, recorded 6 Jan. 1864
in Deed Record Lots 20, p. 258
William Holler et ux.

to
Netty Holler
88 feet north end of 32 feet west side Lot 15.
For \$500.

1866 Warranty Deed, 31 March 1866, recorded 4 Apr. 1866
in Deed Record Town Lots 28 p. 568
Netty Holler and George Holler, her husband

to
Charles Heun and Christiana Heun
Lots 15 and 16 except 40 feet North and except
45 feet South end. For \$2600.

1889 Warranty Deed, 11 July 1889, recorded 5 Aug. 1889
in Deed Record 212, Instrument No. 11843
Charles A. Heun and Christiana Heun

to
Robert H. Heun
22 feet 6 inches South of 40 feet north end
Lots 15 and 16. For \$1.00.

1889 Warranty Deed 11 July 1889, recorded 5 Aug. 1889
in Deed Record 212 Instrument No. 11844

Robert H. Heun
to
Christiana Heun
Same land as other transaction of this date. For
\$1.00.

1968 Warranty Deed recorded 1968
Instrument No. 68-18951

Elizabeth E. Martin, Mrs.
to
Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana

4. Builder: Not known.

5. Alterations and additions: The front porch has been removed. Evidence of it is clear. At the rear of the house an attached shed addition has been removed. The house is not now occupied. Windows and doors are boarded up. The Indianapolis Chapter of Women-In-Construction has undertaken the job of restoring the house as part of the Lockerbie Square Historic District (Indianapolis Star).

B. Historic Events and Persons Connected with the Building:

George Holler was a plasterer (Directory, 1865).

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old Views: Photograph of porch. At James Associates, Architects, 2828 E. 45th St., Indianapolis, Indiana.

2. Primary and unpublished sources:

Drawing giving overall dimensions of shed addition. At James Associates.

Records in the Recorder's Office, City-County Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

3. Secondary and published sources:

Dodd, Talbott, & Parsons' Indianapolis City Directory and Business Mirror, Indianapolis, 1862.

H.H. Dodd & Co.'s Indianapolis City Directory and Business Mirror for 1863. Indianapolis, 1863.

The Indianapolis City Directory for 1865. Hawes & Co. Indianapolis, 1865.

Indianapolis City Directory Swartz & Tedrowe's, 1873. Indianapolis, 1872.

Logan's Indianapolis Directory ... for the Year Commencing July 1, 1867. Indianapolis, 1867.

Swartz & Tedrowe's Indianapolis Directory, 1872-73. Indianapolis, 1872.

Swartz & Tedrowe's Indianapolis City Directory, 1875, Ending Mar. 1876.

"Women-In-Construction To Start Restoring House at Lockerbie", Indianapolis Star, 6 Aug. 1970, p. 61.

- D. Likely sources not yet investigated: Old photographs of the 49-IND
locality might show the house as it formerly was. 6.

Prepared by Wesley I. Shank
Iowa State University
July 1971

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The residence is a typical example of domestic architecture built on the near east side of Indianapolis prior to the turn of the century. The area is now referred to as Lockerbie Square. The building is small in scale and is well proportioned.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 44'0" x 16'2 1/2". Number of bays: two. Number of stories: 1 1/2. Layout, shape: Rectangle.
2. Foundations: 8 1/2" thick brick walls laid in common bond with a header course every 8th course. Four courses equals eleven inches. Bricks are c. 2 1/4" x 3 7/8" x 8". Mortar joints are 3/8" to 1/2". Fair to poor condition.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Walls are clapboard siding, 4 1/2" exposed face (5 1/2" overall), nailed to 2" x 4" studs at 16" on center. Hand wrought nails were originally used. Later nailing was done with wire cut nails. The clapboards are painted buff, trim is painted green. The original color of the exterior appears to have been a light grey.
4. Structural system, framing: First floor joists are 2" x 8" x 16" on center spanning from north wall to south wall (c. 16'0" span) with cross bracing (X) at mid-span supporting the dining room and living spaces above. The kitchen at the west end of the residence is supported by 2" x 8" joists (16" on center) spanning from the west (outside wall) to east interior bearing wall. The joists supporting the kitchen floor are in fair condition. The condition of the joists supporting the dining and living spaces are more difficult to evaluate since they are in a crawl space.
5. Porches, stoops and bulkheads: Front porch (each elevation) one story, was demolished in the Spring of 1970. However,

two of the three turned posts that supported the porch roof are stored in the house and a photograph of the porch is on file in the office of James Associates, 2828 East 45th Street, Indianapolis.

A rear shed (west elevation) has also been recently demolished. The overall dimensions, however, are available from a drawing prepared by James Associates, Indianapolis. An analysis of the existing clapboard on the west elevation would indicate that the rear shed was not a part of the original construction.

6. Chimneys: Two modest red brick chimneys are still extant. They have no distinguishing features (cf. drawings). One chimney is at the ridge of the gable with the flue being adjacent to the false fireplace on the west wall of the living room. The second one is an inside end chimney on the west elevation of the residence.

7. Openings:

Doorways and doors: The front door (east elevation) appears to be the original wooden paneled unit. The large glass light is no longer extant. Scroll at head of light and pilasters define jambs and base of light at the door.

Windows: Simple rectangular double hung wood windows. The number of lights varies (cf. drawings). Evidence would tend to indicate that the windows on the south elevation were two lights over two lights. Windows at the first floor were shuttered; however, they have since been removed and most of the hardware is no longer extant.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Gable roof with ridge running the length of the house (cf. drawings). Roof rafters are 2 x 4 about 16" on center, supporting a wood roof deck covered by wood shingles. Additional layers of asphalt roofing, applied later, cover the shingles.
- b. Cornice, eaves: The projecting eaves of the gable roof are defined by a simple fascia board. The underside of rafters are exposed and sawn to emulate a series of brackets.

- C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

Basement: Small space at west end of residence under kitchen.

First floor: Simple three room arrangement, living room, dining room and kitchen to the rear, no hallway. Enclosed stairway to second floor. 6.

Second floor: Stairs from kitchen below open onto small vestibule which in turn opens directly into two of the bedrooms. Front, or east bedroom, is accessible through middle bedroom (cf. plan).

2. Stairways: Basement: Open wooden stairway which becomes enclosed at first floor adjacent to kitchen with nine risers. Wooden stringers and open treads. Stairway to second floor: Simple enclosed stairway on north wall adjacent to kitchen provides access to second floor. The stair has two flights with a landing and fifteen risers.
3. Flooring: Basement: Earthen floor. First floor: Wood, random width. Second floor: Wood, random width.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Basement: Brick walls laid in common bond. No finished ceiling (exposed wood joints define the space). First floor: The living room walls and ceilings are plastered and covered with wall paper. The paper on the walls is grey and rose stripe. The dining room walls and ceiling are plastered and also covered with paper. The kitchen has a tongue and groove wooden wainscot painted grey and green, plaster above wainscot is papered. Paper on plaster ceiling. Wood floor of kitchen is covered with linoleum. Second floor: The three rooms have plastered walls and ceilings, all surfaces are papered.
5. Doorways and doors: Most of the interior doors appear to be the original units and are four panel doors. The interior door and window head trim is of two basic types (low profile flat pediment or simple 1 x 4). When simple board is used to define the head, then jamb trim boards project above head and jamb trim is cut to a point. These jamb trim pieces are similar to large pickets. All window, door and base boards are painted ivory.
6. Special decorative features and cabinet work: The living room has a false fireplace (cf. drawings). The frame is wooden and painted ivory. The fire chamber is flush with the adjacent wall and appears to be plastered. The surface is covered with grey and rose wall paper. The mantel and brackets are oak.
7. Notable hardware: Most of the original hardware has been removed; however, several interior doors have surface mounted box locks.
8. Mechanical equipment: Heating: System has been removed. Lighting: Electrical: Most fixtures removed; those

remaining are of no importance. Plumbing systems: All 6.
fixtures have been removed.

C. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The east elevation is the facade and is defined by Park Street. The sidewalk to the front or east is of brick laid in a herringbone pattern.

Prepared by David R. Hermansen
Ball State University
July 1970

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were prepared as part of a cooperative project in 1970 between the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana and the Historic American Buildings Survey. During this project, nine buildings in Indianapolis were measured and drawn, and sixteen more were recorded with professional photographs and written data.

The project was under the general direction of James C. Massey, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Measured drawings were prepared by student architects under the direction of Professor David R. Hermansen of Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. Professor Wesley Shank of Iowa State University prepared the historical data, and Jack E. Boucher, HABS staff photographer, provided the photographic record. H. Roll McLaughlin, FAIA, State Preservation Coordinator, President of the Historic Landmarks Foundation, and member of the HABS Advisory Board, served as consultant throughout the project.